

June 4, 2014

Answer all questions truthfully on your visa application

Question: *I was arrested when I was very young but the charges were dropped. Question 38 of the visa application asks if I have ever been arrested or convicted of any offense or crime. Do I have to answer yes to this question, even though the charges were dropped?*

Yes. Even if the charges were dropped and your record was expunged, it is important that you answer the question truthfully. The consular officer can then discuss with you the nature of the offense and whether it affects your eligibility for a U.S. visa. If you have court documents relating to your arrest and the disposition of your case, you may wish to bring those with you to your visa interview.

It is especially important to answer the question truthfully because, even though an arrest or conviction might not make you ineligible for a visa, concealing information on the application or during the interview can make you permanently ineligible for a visa..

You can find more information about how to travel to the U.S. on our website, www.kingston.usembassy.gov. Keep on top of Embassy news on our Facebook page, <https://www.facebook.com/pages/US-Embassy-Jamaica> and by following USEmbassyJA on Twitter. We also answer general visa questions on our Facebook and Twitter pages.